***What we learn about wolves from the movies: Fact or Fiction***

[](http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f5/Howlsnow.jpg/220px-Howlsnow.jpg&imgrefurl=http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gray_wolf&h=162&w=165&sz=1&tbnid=PqZZ5nH5zTjagM:&tbnh=157&tbnw=160&prev=/search?q=wolves&tbm=isch&tbo=u&zoom=1&q=wolves&usg=__mRNOczFcMQIgiJyKNLUNBe1mQQA=&docid=rOgfAJ0uCWomrM&itg=1&sa=X&ei=tbizUP7zK8OqqQHox4CQBg&ved=0CHIQ_B0wCg)

Over the years, the writers of fictional film and television programs and movies have chosen wolves and the mythical werewolf as the central theme of their storylines.

Telling this type of story in film or on television creates challenges for the writers and for audiences. Because of the immediacy of the film medium, scientific facts have to be dramatized, leaving the audience with some very real misconceptions and questions about how wolves behave, breed and hunt and the general nature of this animal.

Your task is to identify and correct some of the most noticeable misconceptions one might derive from fictional programs about wolves. You will also need to provide resources for accurate information about wolves

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| **Myth or misconception** | **How it is portrayed in the popular media** | **Fact** | **Resources for further information** |
| *Wolf behavior* |  |  |  |
| *Wolf pack roles* |  |  |  |
| *Wolf vs human* |  |  |  |
| *Wolf dens* |  |  |  |
| *Territorial behaviors* |  |  |  |

1. What should you do if you encounter a wolf on your own?
2. Alpha male and omega female are outdated terms; what terms are used now and why?
3. What is the probability of a single wolf controlling a whole pack (can he/she direct another to attack or do a specific activity)?
4. What kind of influence can a wolf have on another wolf?
5. Is it possible for a human to outrun a wolf? why or why not?
6. in what ways is the scene of the human in the "wolves den" at the end of the video unrealistic?
7. How large is a wolf's range in northern Canada (for example)?
8. How realistic is it to show a wolf defending its territory in the manner displayed in the video? How do you know?